METAL

DRAWER 20 UNCONVENTIONAL MATERIALS

71 2009 085 05817

Portrayals of Abraham Lincoln

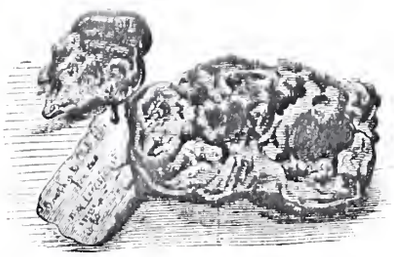
Metal

Excerpts from newspapers and other sources

From the files of the

Lincoln Financial Foundation Collection

71.2009.085.05817



OLD ABE'S NUGGET.

OLD ABE'S NUGGET.

We give a faithful representation of a nugget, valued in greenbacks at $122, sent by a miner of East Idaho, through Capt. James L. Fisk, U. S. A., to the President. The face attached is a natural golden image, believed by the miner to resemble Old Abe, according to his notion, derived from "pictures" circulated while he was running for the Presidency. This specimen is from Bevin's gulch, at the Stinkwater, or Virginia city diggings, on a branch of the Jefferson fork of the Missouri river.

Des Moines, Ia
Nov. 29. 1945

Lincoln National
Life Foundation,
Fort Wayne, Ind.

Gentlemen; I have a small bust of Abraham Lincoln, an old souvenier of Washington, D.C. The lady from whom I received it told me her father brought it from Washington over fifty years ago.

The bust, under a glass dome is about 5½" high. The unusual thing about it is that it was made of old currency returned to the Treasury Department to be destroyed. The label describing it, pasted on the bust is so faded I cannot make out what it says. In red ink I can read $76000, which I presume is the value of the currency used in making the bust. The glass dome is about 6½" high and 8" wide.

I will sell this for $10.00

Yours truly
N. L. Cooper
3015 High St.
Des Moines, 12, Iowa

2

Ojai California
Dec 19-1955

Dr Louis A. Warren:
Lincoln National Life Foundation
Fort Wayne, Indiana.

Dear Sir:

Your name was given to me by Mr Harry E. Pratt of Springfield Illinois in reference to a picture of Abraham Lincoln which is in my possession, it is on tin and is 24 x 20 inches and the oval which is the picture itself is 15 x 19 inches I am sending a picture of it that you may see what it is like

It's original owner was an officer in the Civil War and he brought it

with him when he came west many years ago - I presume Lincoln must have been in his fifties as that is the time I believe he wore the short beard

It is important that I should know something about the picture and would greatly appreciate any information you might have on such a picture

Very Respectfully
Elizabeth G. Craft
(Mrs Ray Craft)

102 E. Eucalyptus St
Ojai California

P.S. Would it have any monetary value as a collectors item?

December 28, 1955

Mrs. Ray Craft
P .O. Box 116
Ojai, Calif.

My dear Mrs. Craft:

We happen to have a Lincoln picture similar to the one that you describe in your letter. Ours was made for an advertisement for Exemplar Cigars and the word "Exemplar" is printed across the top of the frame. Lincoln did not grow a beard until he became president in 1861 or at least until after he was elected in 1860 so the picture represents him during the presidency. You will please find attached a list of pictures which may help you to identify yours.

I would not say that the picture has any value as a collector's item over say $5.00.

Very truly yours,

LAW:WC
enc.

Director

WAN1OE Mr Tivin

WASHINGTON, AUG. 2 (UPI)--THE NATIONAL ASSOCIATION OF COLORED WOMEN'S CLUBS TODAY PRESENTED PRESIDENT KENNEDY A COPPER PLATE PORTRAIT OF ABRAHAM LINCOLN TO BE HUNG IN THE LINCOLN ROOM OF THE WHITE HOUSE.

THE ENGRAVING, MADE BY WILLIAM MAXWELL, WAS TAKEN FROM THE WALL OF THE HOME OF NEGRO ABOLITIONIST AND HISTORIAN FREDERICK DOUGLASS AND WAS A MEMENTO OF HIS FRIENDSHIP WITH LINCOLN.

THE PRESENTATION WAS MADE TO KENNEDY BY THE ASSOCIATION'S PRESIDENT, MRS. ROSA L. GRAGG (CQ) AND A DELEGATION OF THE ASSOCIATION.

WM625PED

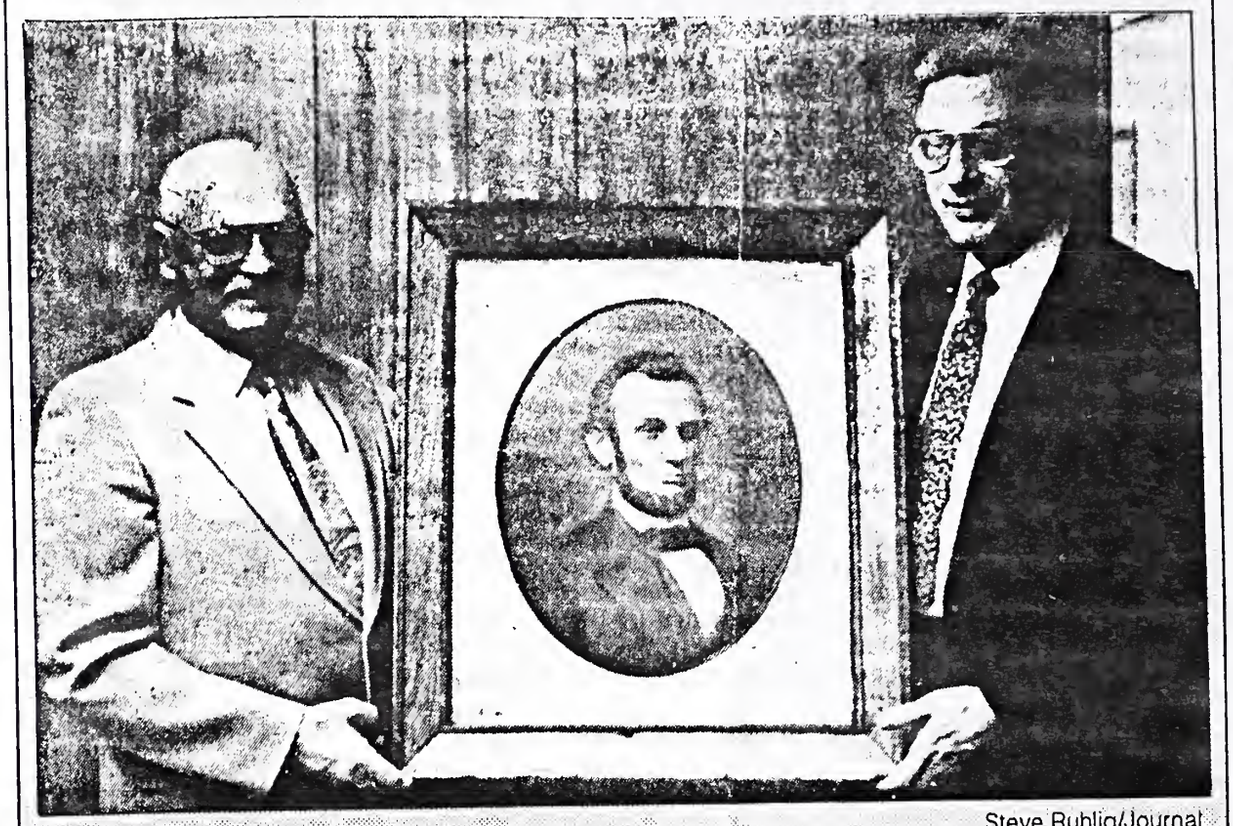
an Legion Post 73, and will be dee-
erstanding in the clients, according
executive director.

The same cuts will affect monthly payments to adop-
tive parents who receive the financial support for
adopting "hard-to-place" youngsters.

"I've talked to four so far and they've all
won't accept any new placements," Doyle

Mystery surrounds photo

Sturgis (MI) Journal 3/11/91, p. 1, Friday



Steve Ruhlig/Journal

Gene Yunker, left, and Roger Zuercher hold a picture of Abraham Lincoln of unknown origin that was recovered from an attic.

Lincoln portrait thought to date back to turn of century

By STEVE RUHLIG
Journal staff writer

Perhaps it is an original masterpiece, then again, maybe it's as common as sliced bread.

Whatever it may be, it no longer sits collecting dust in a pile of debris in the attic of a Howe, Ind., bank, but is now displayed prominently in the office of a Sturgis business man.

A portrait of Abraham Lincoln, thought to date back to the turn of the century, was dug out of the attic at the State Bank of Lima by Gene Yunker, Howe.

"It's an unusual picture. It's very, very old," said Yunker who is retired from the bank, formerly serving as its president.

The portrait is on a metal surface and shows, in perfect detail, a rendering of Honest Abe's face, complete with his trademark beard. The detailed portrait appears to have been professionally produced, but Yunker said he tried in vain to find anything like it.

"I showed it to Harvey Lambright, who is an auctioneer and has dealt with a lot of antiques, and he said he's never seen anything like it," Yunker said.

No brush strokes can be detected on the surface of the portrait and it is not shiny like a typical daguerotype from the period following the civil war. So no one seems to know exactly who produced it or how old it is.

Yunker said he first saw the portrait in 1938 among a cluttered mess of gathered items in the attic while working as an employee at the bank.

"In the banking industry, you learn that there's certain things you never throw away. We never threw

Please see DATE, Page A2

Village water rates

By KATHY JESSUP
Journal correspondent

CONSTANTINE — of Constantine has a $ 1991-92 budget whicl cut in water rates and of existing operating a vice millages.

No changes were Wednesday night for But Shelby Nickell, v dent pro-tem, ackno council may need to charges after two yea in the account and no reserves.

Beginning on July Constantine's averag water customer can e about $5 quarterly af cent reduction appro night in the village's modity charge.

The reduction does minimum quarterly w $7.75 for residential c

Nickell, also water proposed the rate cu forecasts show the should be able to pay solution to the village and still begin to reserves which will b year to pay for the nit

A year ago, Constai ing at a possible $1. issue to build a ni plant, plus a doublin to pay annual plant c However, work by N sulting engineers c abandoned village w detectable nitrat reopened to supp water. That cost $75,000, to be shar fund and general fur

Constantine's tax in several months. budgets were based of a 12.5-mill ope maximum currently

P

mplete coverage of prep district action next week

404 Laura Court, died Feb. 28,
had been a resident since Feb.

ter, a son of John and Mary

hisler, in Coldwater. She died

life and during his early life,
been employed at the Harter
or Scoville Manufacturing,
ompany, White Pigeon, and
was a member of the Sturgis

(Glema) Pierson and Mrs.
ht grandchildren; 13 great-
eral nieces and nephews. He
ters and one brother.
today at the Farrand Funeral
ceive friends from 3-5 p.m.
at 1:30 p.m. Sunday at the
Sturgis Missionary Church,
etery.
rgis Missionary Church.

formerly of Sturgis, died

n.
nney Store from 1951-54,

.m. Feb. 11, 1991, at St.
ith the Revs. Herbert Silko
in St. Francis Cemetery;

ay, Ronald Harris, Charles
nd Mark J. May.

ARGES: Leona Grossman,
my Tressey, Sandra Greer.
VERS AREA HOSPITAL
urs: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
y, Feb. 27
SIONS: Paul Britton, Three
s; Sharon Moore, Mendon.
ARGES: Eunice Harding,
Rivers.
TY HEALTH CENTER OF
OUNTY
: 11 a.m. to 8 p.m.
, Feb. 27
IONS: Royce Deeren,
wood.

sewhere: Son, William
to Michelle and John
on, Kalamazoo, Feb. 24, at
ss Medical Center.
parents, Don and Cathye

Frieda A. Morrill

STURGIS — Frieda A. Morrill, 88, Thurston Woods Villa, and formerly of 218 W. Electric Court, died Feb. 28, 1991, at her home.

She was born Feb. 19, 1903, in Kingfisher, Okla., a daughter of Albert C. and Augusta (Link) Bay.

In 1925, she married Dr. George N. Morrill, in Sturgis. He died Dec. 12, 1975.

She was a lifelong Sturgis resident and a graduate of Western Michigan University, Kalamazoo. She was an elementary teacher in the public schools several years and she also was a homemaker. She was an active member, a Sunday school teacher and organist of the First United Methodist Church, member of the Ruth Circle and the Sturgis Hospital Loan Service Guild.

Surviving are one son, Dr. John B. Morrill, Kalamazoo; one granddaughter, Jennifer Morrill, Kalamazoo; two grandsons, John N. Morrill and William G. Morrill, both of Kalamazoo; one sister, Katherine C. Bay, Sturgis; and one cousin. She was preceded in death by her parents.

Relatives and friends may call after 2 p.m. Sunday at the Foglesong Funeral Home, Sturgis, where the family will receive friends from 2-4 p.m. Sunday. Services are at 1 p.m. Monday at the funeral home with the Rev. Ray Burgess, First United Methodist Church, officiating. Burial will be in Oak Lawn Cemetery.

Memorials may be directed to the First United Methodist Church. Envelopes are available at the funeral home.

Date

Continued from Page A1

anything away so we were certainly in compliance," he said.

An inquisitive Yunker consulted some of the older employees of the bank at the time who told him the picture dated back to before the turn of the century.

The bank — which was founded in 1853 , the third oldest in Indiana — was owned by the Howe family and the Williams family, Yunker said, who were most likely "Lincoln-men."

"Like there are Bush-men today, these gentlemen were mostly likely Lincoln-men," he said. "The founders of the bank were not only financiers, but they were the educators and legislators of the community as well."

Yunker took the portrait to a friend, Roger Zuercher, who has collected Lincoln memorabilia. Zuercher's Sturgis office walls are covered with pictures of the 6 foot 4 inch lanky lawyer that went on to earn a spot on Mt. Rushmore, and have been augmented by a new centerpiece.

"Mr. Lincoln is depicted with a beard so the image is probably from between 1860 and 1865," Zuercher said.

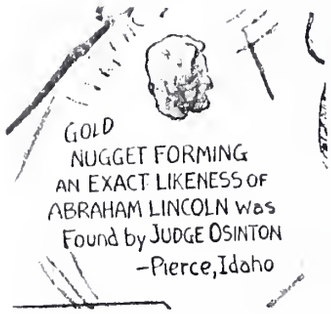
The fascination with Lincoln is natural for Zuercher who obtained a master's degree in American history and who happens to work for a company named for the famous statesman.

The picture now hangs in his office, a branch of Lincoln National Life. The insurance company has a vested interest in Lincoln memorabilia and come this spring, may play a role in solving the mystery of the origin of the portrait.

Zuercher and Yunker plan on taking the portrait to a Fort Wayne museum that specializes in Lincoln artifacts and is overseen by the insurance company's corporate headquarters.

"It is certainly a curiosity piece," Zuercher said.

Meanwhile, the mystery of the portrait makes it more interesting than any factual explanation may ever be.

Correction, clarification

BELIEVE IT OR NOT . . . . . By RIPLEY